

# McDonald Newsbits

March 9, 2009

<http://mcdonald3rd.edublogs.org/>

## Note for you...

It was a pleasure meeting with you at conferences. Your children are amazing! I am especially impressed with the vocabulary in which they use to describe the improvements and areas in which to continue to focus on as it is related to the writing process. We will be posting some of their pieces on the blog to further inspire fellow writers. Please don't hesitate to leave them a comment because they love hearing from you!

## Language Arts

**Writing:** We are currently working on our Essay unit. The children are making observations and expressing what they think about the items they observed. They have been forming opinions and supporting them.

**Reading:** We are currently working in small groups reading the book titled, *Ramona & Her Father*. This has been an excellent book to use to make text-to-self and text-to-world connections as it relates to things happening in our economy.

**Grammar:** We are spending some more time on adverbs.

## Social Studies

We are currently looking at the American Indian culture, as well as, the settlers in the early history of Michigan. We're also reading legends. Our next focus is the French & British in Michigan. The students will also be completing a Michigan time line.

## Iowa Test

As we discussed at your child's parent teacher conference, we will be taking the Iowa Test of Basic Skills over the next week and a half. We are typically only taking one section a day. We will keep to our normal schedule; therefore, if we take the math portion of the test, we will not have a math lesson on that day.

**Reading Counts Homework:** Your child should be **reading 20 minutes per night**. Please encourage them to try and take at least one test per week on a chapter book.

## Specials :

### Week of March 9th:

Monday: Gym  
Tuesday: Art  
Wednesday: Music  
Thursday: Gym  
Friday: Art

### Week of March 16th:

Monday: Music  
Tuesday: Gym  
Wednesday: Art  
Thursday: Music  
Friday: Gym

**Math:** My group is working on Unit 10, Measurement. We are converting units of measurement (for example, inches to feet). Mr. Kookier's group will be wrapping up fractions shortly and is currently working on adding & subtracting fractions.

## Upcoming Events

March 11: Marco's Pizza Night  
March 13: T-Shirt Orders Due  
March 13: Mother/Son Night  
March 16: Pathway Presentation  
March 17: View Book Fair  
March 18: Buy Books at 3:00  
March 20: Sub @ Writing Meeting



Champions keep playing until they get it right.  
~ Billie Jean King

(As my class chants: Just keep trying, trying, trying!)